

LUNENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM
LUNENBURG COURTS BUILDING
LUNENBURG, VIRGINIA

Minutes of April 17, 2014 Meeting

The continued meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following Board of Supervisors members were present: Supervisors Alvester Edmonds, Robert Zava, Edward Pennington, Charles R. Slayton, David Wingold, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, and Assistant to the Administrator Nicole Clark. Supervisors Frank Bacon and T. Wayne Hoover were absent.

Chairman Pennington called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Zava gave the invocation.

Chairman Pennington requested additions to the agenda from the Board and the public.

Rodney Newton with Victoria Fire and Rescue was substituted as number 12.

Mr. Will Rogers of Crossroads was present to request \$65,000 from Lunenburg County.

Supervisor Zava questioned why such a large increase was requested. The amount is \$12,000 more than last year. He wondered if other localities had been requested to increase their appropriation as much as Lunenburg.

Mr. Rogers replied that Lunenburg has not increased their amount in several years and other localities have made increases. This amount would catch Lunenburg up to the amount they need to contribute. Also, a new crisis center may need to be built in the area soon. This would allow funding to already be in place.

Ms. Sharon Harrup of STEPS, Inc requested flat funding at \$36,200. She noted that the Victoria plant would be closing in mid June. She added that a handful of employees would be moved to the Farmville facility. Also, STEPS, Inc will be applying to run the head start program this year.

Mr. David Neumeyer and Ms. Rhonda Knight spoke of behalf of VA Legal Aid Society. They requested a slight increase for a total amount of \$4,903.

Mr. Jim Campbell and Mr. Harrison Moody of VACo discussed the benefits of joining the National Association of Counties. The dues to join are \$450.

Ms. Justine Young of Piedmont Senior Resources requested flat funding of \$1,488 from the county.

Mr. Peter Hunt from Southside Community College requested a little less funding at \$3,219. Requests are based on the number of students from each locality.

Ms. Pat Payne of Heart of Virginia Free Clinic requested \$4,000. This is a new request for the county.

Mr. Rodney Newton with Victoria Fire and Rescue requested flat funding. He thanked the board for their support over the years. He noted that quarterly appropriations are usually used for loan and equipment payments.

Mrs. Sherrie McGuire from Longwood Small Business Development Center requested level funding of \$1,940.

Mrs. Tessie Barnes, Board Member of Madeline's House thanked the board for support in the past and requested \$7,500.

Supervisor Zava asked why the request was much greater than the previous year.

Mrs. Barnes replied that expenses are greatly increasing and more satellite sites have been added. She appreciates any support the board can provide.

Mrs. Dottie Newcomb, Department of Social Services Director, stated that she is waiting on the state to determine a budget. She is expecting flat funding from the county. She provided county profiles from the state for the board to review.

Supervisor Slayton stated that he would like the board to continue supporting Old Dominion R C & D at the amount of \$1,162.

Mrs. Beverley Hawthorne spoke on behalf of the county's membership in Virginia's Retreat and Virginia Growth Alliance. She requests the county continued support at \$4,500 and \$12,914 respectively.

Administrator Gee shared a letter from VRS detailing the employer retirement contribution rate elections. The rate will increase for FY15; however, the county can choose to elect a lower alternate rate of 12.20% versus the higher rate of 15.25%. She added that a decision is not needed tonight, but supervisors should keep this in mind during the budget process.

Administrator Gee noted a few positive aspects of the upcoming budget year. There will be a slight increase in tax revenue. There will be cost savings in extending the reassessment time period. Also the bright server will be paid off. A few expenses that will need to be considered are increases to the Piedmont Regional Jail payments, increases to the cost of health insurance, and the aforementioned VRS rate increase.

Administrator Gee stated that the following priorities for the FY15 budget are: level funding for all offices, convenience center construction, and building and grounds capital projects.

Supervisor Zava commented that the county will need to be conservative in the monies that are spent. The finance committee is hoping to have a balanced budget within the next year without pulling from surplus. He has been reading about counties that are going bankrupt. He explained that what you have is all that can be spent. It's a very difficult situation. He noted that the county has a low tax rate,

but that can often limit services as well. The board will need the understanding to be responsible and have sound judgment in the budgeting process.

Chairman Pennington thanked the finance committee for their hard work on the budget.

Supervisor Zava made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to adjourn.

Tracy M. Gee, Clerk
County Administrator

Edward W. Pennington, Chairman
Board of Supervisors